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**PATENT**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.8**

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7/12/04 Michelle Hobson  
Date Signature

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Application of:

FRANCIS et al.

Serial No.: 09/888,049

Filing Date: June 21, 2001

Title: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR  
USE THEREOF IN MODIFYING THE  
GENOMES OF MICROORGANISMS

Examiner: David Lambertson

Group Art Unit: 1636

Confirmation No.: 6970

Customer No.: 20855

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on May 18, 2004. Because this response is submitted within two months of the date of mailing (i.e., by July 18, 2004), expedited procedure after final is requested.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.